

## INCOMING TELEGRAM

## Department of State

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By

WD 901079

HR-m/SG, RMR, Date 5/33/91

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JUNE 11, 1958

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FROM: BERLIN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 1337, JUNE 11, 7 PM

SENT BONN 1270 DEPARTMENT 1337; REPEATED INFORMATION LONDON 106, PARIS 123

SPECIAL MEETING OF DEPUTY COMMANDANTS CALLED THIS AFTERNOON ON BRITISH AND FRENCH INITIATIVE. FRENCH CHAIRMAN DEPUTY OPENED MEETING BY ASKING IF WE HAD COMPLETE TEXT OF PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT ON NINE GERMAN FLYERS IN EAST GERMAN CUSTODY AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION FROM DEPARTMENT.

WE SHOWED THEM TEXT RECEIVED BERLIN IN DEPTTEL 685, JUNE 10 WHICH WAS ONLY COMMUNICATION ON SUBJECT RECEIVED HERE BY THAT TIME.

FRENCH AND BRITISH DEPUTIES THEN SAID THEY WOULD LIKE GIVE US INDICATION COMMENTS THEY WERE SENDING THEIR RESPECTIVE FOREIGN OFFICES.

BRITISH DEPUTY SAID HE WOULD STRESS HIS CONTINUED AGREEMENT WITH INSTRUCTIONS RECEIVED RECENTLY FROM HIS GOVERNMENT WHICH HAD STRONGLY OPPOSED ANY DEALINGS WITH GDR AUTHORITIES WHETHER DIRECTLY OR THROUGH INTERMEDIARY SUCH AS CZECHS. HE BELIEVED THAT, GIVEN PECULIAR SITUATION OF BERLIN CONTACT WITH GDR AUTHORITIES WOULD BE EQUIVALENT TO STARTING DOWN SLIPPERY PATH ON WHICH IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO CALL HALT. ALTHOUGH PRESENT SITUATION INVOLVED ONLY NINE FLYERS IT SEEMED LOGICAL TO SUPPOSE THAT GDR AUTHORITIES WOULD NEXT ATTEMPT TO CREATE DIFFICULTIES REGARDING AIR OR LAND ACCESS TO BERLIN INSISTING THAT ALLIES DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THEM TO ACHIEVE SETTLEMENT. HE PARENTHETICALLY POINTED OUT THAT BRITISH HAD REFUSED CONSISTENTLY TO DEAL WITH GDR AUTHORITIES ALTHOUGH THIS MEANT INABILITY TO EXTEND PROTECTION TO SOME THREE TO FOUR THOUSAND BRITISH SUBJECTS LIVING IN EAST GERMANY, AS WELL AS INCONVENIENCE TO BRITISH

TRADE

PERMANENT

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- 2- 1337, JUNE 11, 7 PM FROM BERLIN

TRADE INTERESTS AND TRAVELERS.

FRENCH DEPUTY SAID HE WAS COMMUNICATING TO FOREIGN OFFICE ALONG SAME LINES, ADDING SIMILAR PARENTHESIS REGARDING OVER TWELVE HUNDRED FRENCH NATIONALS IN SOVIET ZONE. HE INDICATED HE HAD BEEN EXERCISING RESTRAINING INFLUENCE ON BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE HERE WHO NOW PRESUMABLY WOULD WISH BEGIN DEAL DIRECTLY WITH EAST GERMANS TO EFFECT RELEASE OF BELGIAN PILOT STILL BEING HELD.

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